

sown decades ago, perhaps even a century ago, with the advent of the Soviet Union as well as the decline of the Ottoman Empire.

Here is what I do know. The Armenians and the Azerbaijanis deserve to live and prosper in peace. Nations require territorial integrity. I am hopeful for the future that these two nations, both with a proud and great history, will be able to resume their relationship in peace and that the parties work, in good faith, to resolve their issues without bullets.

God bless the people there and through His will it is my hope peace will prevail.

#### HONORING JOHN LEEPER

#### HON. H. MORGAN GRIFFITH

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 15, 2021*

Mr. GRIFFITH. Madam Speaker, I rise in honor of John Leeper of Dublin, Virginia, who passed away on October 2, 2021, at the age of 59. Mr. Leeper served his local community as a Police Officer with the Pulaski Police Department for over 29 years.

Mr. Leeper was born on December 25, 1961, in Washington, DC, to Walter Marue Leeper and Minnie Lamon Leeper. Before beginning his career with the police department, he served his country in the 82nd Airborne Division of the United States Army. He recently retired after spending a career selflessly serving others. In his 29 years with the Pulaski Police Department, Mr. Leeper was a well-known leader on the force and in the community. He never met a stranger and welcomed all with a smile.

Colleagues and community members remember Mr. Leeper for his kindness and dedication to the safety and security of his community. He trained numerous other officers and many colleagues looked upon him as a mentor. His hard work and service will not be forgotten.

Mr. Leeper was preceded in death by his mother, Minnie Lamon Leeper. He is survived by his wife, Rebecca Mills Leeper; his son, Austin Leeper and his fiancée, McKayla Huff; his step-daughters, Hunter Riddle and Laura Reece; and his father, Walter M. Leeper. I would like to offer my condolences to them and the people of Pulaski County on the loss of this dedicated public servant.

#### RECOGNIZING MR. JOHN C. HARRIS

#### HON. DAVID G. VALADAO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 15, 2021*

Mr. VALADAO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. John C. Harris for his dedication and service to the Central Valley.

Mr. Harris and his family's commitment to agriculture spans the past century. Harris Farms has grown into one of the largest agriculture businesses in the nation. Harris Ranch Inn & Restaurant provides some of the highest quality beef in the United States, and they maintain an emphasis on hiring Coalinga-Huron Unified School District students.

Mr. Harris was instrumental in the funding and development of the Boys and Girls Club

in Huron, an organization which was absent from the community until the involvement of Mr. Harris and his associates.

Aside from being pivotal in the development of the Boys and Girls club, Mr. Harris has also provided scholarships to local students for years. Since 2013, he has helped provide 147 different scholarships to students.

Mr. Harris has been vital in providing much needed assistance throughout the community. Recently, he was an intricate part of the development of a new Animal Control Shelter in the City of Huron.

Whether it be through his dedication to community service, his philanthropy, or providing jobs to local students to help develop career skills, Mr. Harris is a vital member of the community within the 21st Congressional District.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the incredible work done by Mr. John C. Harris.

#### HONORING THE LIFE OF FRANK D. HARGROVE, SR.

#### HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 15, 2021*

Mr. WITTMAN. Madam Speaker, it is with deep sadness but great respect that I take this time to remember Frank D. Hargrove, Sr., who passed away on October 16, 2021, at the age of 94. After serving in WWII in the Army Air Corps, Frank started his political career in the Virginia House of Delegates in 1981. He went on to serve for 28 years, which is the longest tenure of any state legislator in Hanover County's history.

Frank was an adventurous young man, he learned to fly planes as a teenager and, enlisted in the Army Air Corps after graduating high school. After his service, he attended Virginia Tech where he often reminisced about his adventures with his airplane over his studies. Upon graduating, he joined his father's insurance business. He was a brilliant businessman; he assembled a team, and together they built up A.W. Hargrove Insurance Agency. He grew what started as a small family business into one of the largest independent insurance agencies in Virginia before selling it in 1997.

When Frank married Oriana Robertson, she took credit for channeling his energy to productive ends. This same energy led Frank to teach himself to sail, pick-up long-distance biking and running, and be well known for his flying stories. In 1960, he and a group of friends promoted building the Hanover County Airport, which was eventually named after him in recognition of his work.

In 1981, Frank was elected to the Virginia House of Delegates where he loved making the government work for his constituents and believed their trust had to be earned every day. He represented his constituents by serving in leadership on different committees, one being the Vice-Chairman of the Commerce and Labor Committee. One of his proudest accomplishments was serving as the legislative member on the Board of Trustees of the Virginia War Memorial, where he was instrumental in securing funding to restore the Memorial Shrine and Building and to create the education center and programs. He spent his off time supporting charitable organizations

and was especially proud of his work on the governing bodies of Ferrum College and Randolph-Macon College. Frank aligned his philosophy closely with that of Thomas Jefferson's maxim "the government that governs best, governs least". Although his constituents did not always agree with his stances, they continued to elect him until he retired.

Frank's life was filled with patriotism and public service. He will be missed for his direct manner, vice grip handshake, and storytelling. He is survived by his children and their spouses, Dale Alderman (Richard Alderman), Frank Jr. (Elizabeth), Stewart (Lynn), and Wellesley (Kim), and grandchildren Oriana (Douglas Fletcher), Stewart (Dana), Sarah, Mark (Amber), Frank III, Madeleine, Mollie, Hannah, Graeme, and Bailey, and one great-grandchild, Stewart.

Madam Speaker, I ask you to join me and countless others as we recognize the many contributions of Frank D. Hargrove, Sr.

#### HOMETOWN HERO—MERREL FRANKLIN (FRANK) ADAMS, JR.

#### HON. BETH VAN DUYNE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 15, 2021*

Ms. VAN DUYNE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Merrel Franklin (Frank) Adams, Jr. of Southlake, TX who served in the U.S. Marine Corp and USMC Reserves during his 20 years of service.

Over the weekend, I had the honor of awarding Frank the 2021 Congressional Veteran Commendation. Frank courageously flew during the Vietnam War and served seven months with the infantry as a Forward Air Controller, Air Liaison Officer and Battalion Operations Officer.

Among many of Frank's accomplishments during his service, he was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross while flying the A4 Skyhawk, which saved American troops who were trapped by enemy fire, the Bronze Star Medal with Valor for repelling enemy attack and causing many enemy casualties and 6 Air Medals for missions over North Vietnam, South Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia. Frank also received the Purple Heart for injuries he received when he was shot down by enemy ground fire. When he ejected, he had to out-run and fire upon the enemy until he was rescued by a helicopter.

It is an honor to recognize the distinguished veterans of TX 24 and to preserve their stories for future generations of Americans through the Congressional Veteran Commendation. I thank Frank for his service and the sacrifices he made to protect our great nation.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. MIKIE SHERRILL

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 15, 2021*

Ms. SHERRILL. Madam Speaker, regretfully, I was unable to vote on November 1st and 2nd. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 340; YEA on Roll Call No. 341; YEA on Roll Call No. 342; YEA